

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /072 W

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R 141533Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5420

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: CSU-FDP MEETING ON LANDTAG ORGANIZATION

REF: MUNICH 1664

1. QUESTION OF WHETHER THE EIGHT FDP REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW BAVARIAN LANDTAG WOULD BE GRANTED FRAKTION STATUS, WHICH TECHNICALLY REQUIRES MINIMUM OF TEN MEMBERS, WAS RAISED BUT NOT RESOLVED AT NOVEMBER 12 OPENING SESSION OF LANDTAG. HEINZ BRANDT, GENERAL SECRETARY OF BAVARIAN FDP, TOLD US NOVEMBER 14 HE THOUGHT QUESTION WOULD BE SETTLED IN FDP'S FAVOR NOVEMBER 15 AT MEETING IN BONN BETWEEN GENSCHER AND ERTL, FOR FDP, AND STRAUSS AND BUNDESTAG FRAKTION CHAIRMAN STUECKLEN FOR CSU. BRANDT SAID ERTL HAD ALREADY HELD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF ISSUE WITH STUECKLEN, AND IT LOOKED FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT CSU WILL ALLOW FDP TO FORM FRAKTION. AT ISSUE ARE QUARTER OF MILLION DM, MEMBER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHIP ON LANDTAG COMMITTEES, AND MEMBERSHIP ON BAVARIAN

RADIO COMMITTEE. BRANDT SAID ONE SEAT ON LATTER HAS BEEN HELD VACANT FOR FDP.

2. FOR SAKE OF ITS IMAGE, CSU HAS INTEREST IN NOT APPEARING TO BULLY LITTLE FDP. REFUSAL TO GRANT IT FRAKTION STATUS COULD GENERATE WAVE OF SYMPATHY FOR FDP THAT COULD LATER COST VOTES TO CSU/CDU. WE FIND IT STRIKING, HOWEVER, THAT THIS ISSUE, ON SURFACE A PURELY LOCAL ONE, IS NOT BEING SETTLED IN MUNICH BETWEEN FDP GROUP (OR FRAKTION) CHAIRMAN HAMM-BRUECHER WITH HER CSU COUNTERPART LANG, OR EVEN WITH GOPPEL, BUT RATHER IN BONN AT NATIONAL LEVEL OF PARTIES CONCERNED. IT WOULD ALSO SEEM PERTINENT THAT ERTL HAS LONG MADE KNOWN PUBLICLY HIS DISSATISFACTION WITH DECISION BAVARIAN FDP TOOK LAST YEAR TO ANNOUNCE IN ADVANCE ITS READINESS TO FORM COALITION IN BAVARIA WITH SPD, AND HAS NOW PUBLICLY CITED IT AS MAJOR FACTOR IN FDP'S RELATIVELY POOR ELECTORAL SHOWING OCTOBER 27. STRAUSS, FOR HIS PART, TOLD PRESS DAY AFTER BAVARIAN ELECTIONS IN ANSWER TO QUESTION ON FDP'S FRAKTION STATUS THAT CSU WANTED TO REFORM FDP, NOT DESTROY IT.

3. IT SEEMS LIKELY, THEREFORE, THAT STRAUSS VIEWS GRANTING OF DESIRED LANDTAG STATUS TO FDP AS GESTURE CONTRIBUTING TO PROCESS OF WEANING FDP AWAY FROM SPD. MOREOVER, SINCE FDP IS SHOWING SIGNS OF WEANING ITSELF, AT LEAST TO POINT OF ACQUIRING IMAGE OF HAVING MORE INDEPENDENT POSTURE, STRAUSS WILL BE ABLE TO CLAIM CREDIT FOR THIS WITH CDU, AND PRESUMABLY EXTRACT HIS PRICE FROM LATTER. SPIVACK

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